

# **Atlantic Sunrise Project Horse-Shoe Trail Crossing Plan**

**June 2016**

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## **Introduction and Background**

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) proposes to construct the Atlantic Sunrise Project (Project), which is an expansion of the existing Transco natural gas transmission system that will enable Transco to provide natural gas from northern Pennsylvania to its existing market areas in the southeastern United States. The Project includes installation of approximately 198.2 miles of new pipeline, including two new greenfield pipelines (Central Penn Line [CPL] North and CPL South), two pipeline loops (Chapman and Unity), and noncontiguous pipeline replacements. The proposed route for CPL South crosses the Horse-Shoe Trail at MP 41.2 in South Londonderry Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. The Horse-Shoe Trail, an approximately 140-mile-long hiking and equestrian trail, originates in Valley Forge National Park and terminates at the Appalachian National Scenic Trail north of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The Horse-Shoe Trail is used year-round.

Transco met with members of the Horse-Shoe Trail Club (Trail Club) on January 13, 2015 to discuss the Project's crossing of the trail. Members of the Trail Club noted that this section of the trail is commonly used for local hiking with a limited amount of horseback riding. During this meeting, Transco agreed to notify the Trail Club of the construction schedule so the Trail Club could post the information on the trail's website and Facebook page. This crossing plan addresses the Horse-Shoe Trail Club's concerns and outlines the special procedures proposed to minimize disturbance to the trail and its users.

## **Construction**

Transco is proposing to cross the trail using conventional pipeline construction methods. Construction activities across the trail and in the immediate vicinity will last approximately 12 weeks and include mobilization, ROW clearing, trenching, pipe installation, backfilling, and site restoration. This estimate is based on construction progress, weather, land access, and environmental permits, and is therefore, subject to change. Transco will file weekly construction reports with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) indicating, among other things, changes to construction schedules, and these reports will be available online through the FERC website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under the Project Docket No. CP15-138.

Transco intends to close the trail for approximately two weeks. Transco determined that establishing an alternate route for trail users during construction was infeasible. As described below, two temporary trail closures will be necessary. The Trail Club agreed that due to the limited period of time the trail would be closed, a reroute or detour would be unnecessary.

### **Notifications and Safety Measures**

Once construction timing is decided, and at least two months prior to construction, Transco will notify the Trail Club of the construction schedule. The Trail Club has plans to post construction information on their website ([www.hstrail.org](http://www.hstrail.org)) and their Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/pages/Horse-Shoe-Trail-Club/501923073308084](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Horse-Shoe-Trail-Club/501923073308084)). Two weeks prior to construction, Transco will also post signage at access points and along both sides of the trail leading up to the construction site alerting trail users of the construction work ahead and trail closure.

Transco will install chain-link safety fencing will be installed on each side of the trail and across the pipeline ROW to keep trail users out of the work area during construction periods. Gates will be erected across the travel lane, and these gates will be opened to allow equipment to cross the trail. Construction monitors or flagmen will also be present when construction equipment traverses the trail during periods outside of the scheduled temporary trail closures.

The first temporary trail closures, lasting approximately 2 to 3 days, will involve excavation across the trail. Once the excavation is completed, the contractor will install bridging with hand rails across the trench. Construction fencing will direct trail users to cross the pipeline trench at the bridge crossing. Once the bridge and security fencing is installed, use of the trail will be permitted.

The second temporary trail closures, lasting approximately 2 to 3 days, is for tie-in construction activities. During this temporary trail closures, the contractor will install the pipeline section across the trail. After the pipeline section is installed, the contractor will make tie-in welds to the mainline section. The contractor will then commence with back-filling the trench, compaction, and final dress-up. The trail will be graded prior to final restoration to allow continued use of the trail. Construction fencing will be re-erected to direct the recreational users to the graded trail.

**Restoration**

Following construction, Transco will restore the trail to its preconstruction condition. The disturbed area surrounding the trail will be prepared for seeding, fertilizing, and mulching after construction has been completed.

**Contact information**

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